

**A Swedish Representative of the Mygalomorphae,
Atypus affinis (Eichw.)**

By

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On a visit in September 11 1957 to Kullaberg in Scania the writer had the good opportunity of finding a specimen of *Atypus*



Fig. 1. *Atypus affinis* (Eichwald). Photo: B. Åkesson.
Entomol. Ts. Årg. 79. H. 1-2, 1958



Fig. 2. The southern side of Kullaberg. Note the "kratt" in the background.
Photo: H. Hallander.

affinis, a species belonging to the *Mygalomorphae*, which sub-order was not earlier known in Sweden.

The Kullaberg-specimen, a fully developed male, measured about 12 mm in length. It was found crawling on a path and as this species does not normally leave its tube, one might suppose that the spider was on a wooing quest. This supposition agrees well with W. S. Bristowe's observations (1933); he states the mating time to be the later half of September and October in England.

Kullaberg, a peninsula, which protrudes into the Öresund, has a peculiar and for Sweden uncommon nature. The country is very rocky and on exposed places of its southern side there grows an oakbush-forest called "kratt", held down by the wind. Here *Atypus affinis* was caught. The vegetation is often xeromorph with such plants as *Sedum Telephium* and *Veronica spicata* for example. *Rubus fruticosus* grows richly under the oak-kratt, and one can also find *Lathyrus sphaericus*, which grows only in a few other places in Sweden.

The range of *Atypus affinis* extends southwards into northern Africa (Algeria), Spain and Portugal. Eastwards it is distributed to Austria, Hungary and, in one locality, to Caucasia. It is also found in Britain, France, Germany and Holland and was supposed to reach its most northerly point in Denmark where it is most common on Bornholm. This border is now extended, and Sweden has got a representative of the *Mygalomorphae*.

Literature

- Bristowe, W. S. 1933. The British Species of *Atypus*. — Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. 11: 289—302.